**Handout 5.2 Final Debate**

**The dream Act: (Wikipedia.com)**

*This bill would provide conditional permanent residency to certain undocumented students of good moral character who graduate from US high schools, arrived in the US illegally as minors, and lived in the country continuously for at least five years prior to the bill's enactment. If they were to complete two years in the military or two years at a four year institution of higher learning, the students would obtain temporary residency for a six year period. Within the six year period, a student may qualify who has "acquired a degree from an institution of higher education in the United States or has completed at least 2 years, in good standing, in a program for a bachelor's degree or higher degree in the United States" or have "served in the armed services for at least 2 years and, if discharged, has received an honorable discharge". Military enlistment contracts require an eight year commitment, with active duty commitments typically between four and six years, but as low as two years. "Any alien whose permanent resident status is terminated... shall return to the immigration status the alien had immediately prior to receiving conditional permanent resident status under this Act." This bill would have included undocumented immigrants as old as 35 years of age.*

**On Monday, April 24th (e.i. *date of Lesson 6)* you will participate in a debate on theDream Act. You are required to come to class prepared to debate on either side of the argument:**

The DREAM Act will increase illegal immigration.

The entire assignment consists of three parts.

1. You are to come to class with a **paper** that:
   1. Summarizes the issue in one paragraph
   2. Lists 3 arguments for and 3 arguments against the issue
   3. You need to show that you have *researched* the issue well: do not prepare arguments based on your opinions, but on facts and evidence. You will have some in-class time to work on the paper and can ask for teacher assistance.
2. **During the Debate**: Every student is expected to talk at least twice, so prepare your arguments well! Be ***passionate****,* even if you do not agree with the side you are assigned.
3. You will do a **one page reflection** after the debate where you
   * Mention what new insights into the issue the debate has given you
   * After hearing the debate, where do they stand on the issue?
     + Is the Dream Act a pull factor?
     + Is the Dream Act a good idea in general, even if it is a pull factor?

**The process of the debate will be as follows, mediated by the teacher. Think about what you could say for *each part* of the debate.**

1. Opening Statements (1 minute): During the opening statement one person will introduce their team and the topic that your team will be debating. You will discuss what point of view you will be arguing from and discuss the reasoning behind why you believe your team will win. Each group will give their opening statement in the beginning.
2. Oral Arguments [The DREAM ACT will increase illegal immigration] (5-10 minutes): This is where 3 members of your group will present the evidence that proves your position is correct. You will each need to have factual evidence to persuade the audience of your position.
3. Rebuttal Arguments (5 minutes): The opposite team will be given a chance to present counter evidence to show that the argument being made is false, inaccurate, weak, or misrepresented. 3 members of your group will be allowed to make rebuttal arguments.
4. Cross Examinations (5 minutes): Following the rebuttal, the other team (those who gave the oral argument) will have the opportunity to ask questions about the evidence given during the rebuttal in order to disprove the argument. 3 members of your group will be allowed to cross examine the other team.
5. Repeat steps 2 and 3 and 4. Oral argument [The DREAM ACT will not increase illegal immigration] , rebuttal and cross examination.
6. Closing arguments (2 minutes): This will summarize the key points and arguments that were made by each group. 1 individual will give the closing argument and will need to persuade the audience that your group is in fact correct.

Please use these sites to do your research. Some of these websites may be biased!

1. [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) – Remember, you can find information on Wikipedia, but you have to cite where the information originally came from!
2. [www.dreamact2009.org](http://www.dreamact2009.org) – Dream Act
3. [www.cis.org](http://www.cis.org) and search for dream act (i.e. <http://www.cis.org/node/503>) – Center for Immigration Studies
4. <Http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h111-1751> – Dream Act Legislation
5. [www.dreamactivist.org](http://www.dreamactivist.org) – Dream Activists

You can research on other websites or sources with teacher approval. Try national newspapers (newyorktimes.com) or scholarly articles. Make sure you are finding evidence and facts, and not opinions.